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ABSTRACT

Citations from five major journals ("Journal of Learning Disabilities," "Learning Disabilities Quarterly," "Exceptional Children," "Journal of Special Education," and "American Journal of Mental Deficiency") in the field of learning disabilities and special education were examined to determine the nature and age of the sources. Citations were collected according to publication data and nature of the source. Results indicated considerable differences in the sources of information employed by the journals. Journal citations were somewhat more recent than those found in similar and related studies. Overlap and stability patterns suggested that, in general, there was a tendency for each of them to refer to a consistent pool of sources, although this tendency was stronger in "American Journal of Mental Deficiency" and "Learning Disabilities Quarterly" than in the "Journal of Special Education" or "Exceptional Children." (Author/CL)

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION IN LEARNING DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION LITERATURE

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(ABSTRACT)

Citations from five major journals in the field of learning disabilities and special education were examined to determine the nature and age of the sources. The results indicate that there are considerable differences in the sources of information employed by these journals. In additions, the ten journals most frequently cited in each of these major journals are listed and trends in references in these journals are analyzed.

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1982

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As the volume of research on learning disabilities increases, it is of interest to know how this information is desseminated to other researchers and to practitioners. What forms of research are most often referred to by experts in the field of learning disabilities? What specific sources are referred to most often? How recent are the sources which are cited? How do these patterns in learning disabilities compare to those in the rest of special education? Such questions would be of interest not only to researchers, but also to readers and users of research on learning disabilities and to persons interested in compiling libraries and other collections or research information.

To attempt to answer these questions, all the references cited during 1979 and 1980 were examined for the following five journals: Journal of Learning Disabilities, Learning Disabilities Quarterly, Exceptional Children, Journal of Special Education, and American Journal of Mental Deficiency. The first two were selected because they are widely read and highly regarded journals in the field of learning disabilities. Exceptional Children and the Journal of Special Education represent the broad field of special education in general; and American Journal of Mental Deficiency is a highly regarded publication in the field of mental retardation. The citations thus collected were then categorized according to the date of publication and the nature of the source.

1979 Results

Tables 1 through 5 present the 1979 results for each journal separately. All five journals relied heavily on journal citations. The American Journal of Mental Deficiency showed the heaviest reliance on journals (71% of its citations), and Exceptional Children the lightest (45%). The two learning disabilities journals were almost identical in the percentages of citations drawn from each type of source.

Insert Tables 1 to 5 here

The median citation dates indicate how recent the citations were in each journal. In 1979, the Journal of Special Education, Learning Disabilities Quarterly, and Exceptional Children all had a median citation age of five years. The median age of citations in the American Journal of Mental Deficiency and in the Journal of Learning Disabilities was seven years. An examination of journal citations shows that the Learning Disabilities Quarterly and the Journal of Special Education had the most recent citations to journals (median age 5 years). Those in the other three journals had a median age of six years.

Tables 6 through 10 show the journals most frequently cited in each of the five journals in this study during 1979. Three of the journals (Journal of Learning Disabilities, Exceptional Children, and American Journal of Mental Deficiency) cited themselves most frequently; whereas the other two placed much more emphasis on references to other journals.

Insert Tables 6 to 10 here

1980 Results

Tables 11 through 15 present the 1980 results for each journal separately. In 1980, the reliance on journal citations was much more similar among the five journals, ranging from 59% for the American Journal of Mental Deficiency to 51% for Exceptional Children. The median age of the 1980 citations ranged from five years for Exceptional Children to eight years for the Journal of Special Education. When only citations to

journal articles were considered, the median age of such citations in 1980 ranged from five years for Exceptional Children to seven years for the Learning Disabilities Quarterly, the Journal of Special Education, and the Journal of Learning Disabilities.

Insert Tables 11 - 15 here

Tables 16 through 20 show the journals most frequently cited in each of the five journals during 1980. Just as had been the case in 1979, the Journal of Learning Disabilities, Exceptional Children, and the American Journal of Mental Deficiency cited themselves most frequently, whereas the other two placed much greater emphasis on references to other journals.

Insert Tables 16 - 20 here

Combined 1979-1980 Results

Tables 21 through 25 present the results for each journal for the combined years 1979 and 1980. These results reveal a pattern of reliance on journals similar to that for the separate years previously revealed in Tables 1 through 5 and 11 through 15. The median age of the citations ranged from a most recent of 5 years for Exceptional Children to a least recent of 7 years for the Journal of Learning Disabilities and the Journal of Special Education. When only journal citations during 1979 and 1980 are considered, the Exceptional Children citations had a median age of 5 years, and the other 4 journals a median journal citation age of 6 years. This information indicates that these journal citations were somewhat more recent than those found in similar and related studies (Black, 1973; Vockell and Asher, 1973; Vockell and Bennett, 1973).

Insert Tables 21 - 25 here

Tables 26 through 30 show the journals most frequently cited during the combined 1979-1980 period in each of the five journals in this study. Three of the journals (Journal of Learning Disabilities, Exceptional Children, and American Journal of Mental Deficiency) cited themselves most frequently; whereas the other two placed more emphasis on references to other journals. When examining these "Top Ten" tables, it is important to

keep in mind that some journals (e.g., Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis) came into existence more recently than others, and this accounts for some of the variations over time. In addition, it is important to note that certain highly specific topics (e.g., allergies and drug therapy) can influence the journals cited for any brief period.

Insert Tables 26 - 30 here

Five journals (Journal of Learning Disabilities, Exceptional Children, Child Development, Journal of Special Education, and Journal of Educational Psychology) were on the Top Ten list for both of the journals explicitly devoted to learning disabilities. Comparing the remaining journals on the list, it seems that the Learning Disabilities Quarterly focuses more on "interdisciplinary" journals, whereas the Journal of Learning Disabilities focus more on sources dealing directly with special education. In addition, the Quarterly tends to cite sources regarded by "experts" as displaying high professional quality. Five of the Quarterly's Top Ten appear on Luce & Johnson's (1978) lists of the top journals in education, whereas only 3 of the Journal's Top Ten appear on the same lists. Likewise, 4 of the Quarterly's Top Ten appear on Koulack & Keselman's (1975) list of the 40 most highly regarded journals in psychology, whereas only 2 of the Journal's are on this same list.

Table 31 summarizes the frequency with which each of the five journals in the study included on their Top Ten list journals from other significant lists. This shows that the Learning Disabilities Quarterly and the American Journal of Mental Deficiency overlapped more with psychology and educational psychology journals than did the other three journals (Luce & Johnson, 1978; Koulack & Keselman, 1975). On the other hand, while the American Journal of Mental Deficiency overlapped most with the field of child psychology, the Learning Disabilities Quarterly overlapped least (Vockell & Bennett, 1973). Both the Journal of Learning Disabilities & Exceptional Children overlapped heavily with the "traditional" field of learning disabilities

(as exemplified by Black's 1973 list), whereas the American Journal of Mental Deficiency overlapped very little with this list.

Insert Table 31 here

Table 32 lists in alphabetical order all the journals which appeared in the combined 1979 - 1980 Top Ten for any one or more of the five journals and shows how often these sources are cited in the other journals. The numbers in parentheses in Table 32 give the proportion of journal citations within each of the five journals which referred to a given source. For example, 16% of the journal citations in the Journal of Learning Disabilities were to itself, 5% to Exceptional Children, 5% to Child Development, etc. This table reveals some surprising anomalies. For example, the Journal of Learning Disabilities cited Annals of Allergy 24 times, whereas none of the other journals cited this source at all.

Insert Table 32 here

Degree of Overlap of Sources

Table 33 shows how often the five journals cited one another. Learning Disabilities Quarterly and Journal of Special Education cited the other journals in the study frequently. Each of the other three cited themselves far more often than they cited the other journals combined.

Insert Table 33 here

Table 34 summarizes the degree of overlap among the five journals. It lists the number of journals in common on each Top Ten list. The journals which are most "alike" in this sense are Exceptional Children and Journal of Special Education, which shared 9 entries in their Top Ten. At the other extreme, American Journal of Mental Deficiency had only 2 Top Ten journals in common with Journal of Learning Disabilities and with Learning Disabilities Quarterly.

Insert Table 34 here

Two journals (Exceptional Children and Child Development) were on all 5 Top Ten lists. Four journals (Journal of Special Education, Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis,

Journal of Educational Psychology, and Journal of Learning Disabilities) appeared on 4 out of 5 lists. American Journal of Mental Deficiency, Mental Retardation, & Psychology in the Schools appeared on 3 out of 5 lists.

Stability of Citation patterns

The "stability" of the citation patterns was examined in two ways. First, a comparison was made of how often a journal which was in the Top Ten for a given citing journal during 1979 was also on that journal's Top Ten list the next year. Secondly, for each of the five citing journals a list was drawn up to indicate the journals which were in the Top Ten for that journal in at least one of the two years. Then a correlation coefficient was computed to indicate the strength of the tendency for journals cited during one year to be cited during the other yeary that same journal. These stability results are summarized in Table 35.

Insert Table 35 here

These stability results suggest that, in general, there is a tendency for each of these journals to refer to a consistent pool of sources. However this tendency is stronger in the American Journal of Mental Deficiency and the Learning Disabilities Quarterly than in the Journal of Special Education or Exceptional Children.

Summary and Conclusion

These results indicate current trends in special education and learning disabilities literature. These data make it possible to compare citation patterns of specific journals within the field of special education. These results will be helpful both to individual readers who wish to keep abreast of current research in special education and learning disabilities and to compilers of general and research libraries in special education. In addition, these results suggest publications in which information might be disseminated most rapidly and efficiently to the widest possible audience.

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TABLE 1

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN THE JOURNAL OF LEARNING DISABILITIES DURING 1979

	Pre '68	68-70	71-73	74-76	77-79	Total	Percent of all Citation	Median Citation
Books (not collections)	154	85	85	108	37	469	27%	1970
Books (edited collections)	34	37	55	58	33	217	13%	1973
Ph.D. Dissertations	5	9	7	10	3	34	2%	1972
Technical Reports	1	1	3	8	2	15	1%	197[illegible]
Convention Proceedings	8	4	9	13	16	50	3%	1974
Journals	174	113	196	292	147	922	54%	1973
Other	0	0	0	6	5	11	1%	1976
Total Citations	376	249	355	495	243	1718		1972

TABLE 2

SOURCES OF CITATION IN THE LEARNING DISABILITIES QUARTERLY DURING 1979

	Pre '68	68-70	71-73	74-76	77-79	Total	Percent of all Citation	Median Citation
Books (not collection)	40	30	32	38	42	182	24%	1973
Books (edited collections)	6	7	12	17	30	72	10%	1976
Ph.D. Dissertations	2	0	2	2	3	9	1%	1974
Technical Reports	4	4	4	15	16	43	6%	1975
Convention Proceedings	2	0	1	6	7	16	2%	1976
Journals	58	41	67	124	119	409	55%	1974
Other	1	0	1	1	10	13	2%	1977
Total Citations	113	82	119	203	227	744		1974

TABLE 3

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DURING 1979

	Pre '68	68-70	71-73	74-76	77-79	Total	Percent of all Citations	Median Citation
Books (not collections)	45	25	39	41	30	180	18%	1972
Books (edited collections)	15	9	30	54	50	158	16%	1975
Ph.D. Dissertations	3	2	3	8	2	18	2%	1974
Technical Reports	1	5	57	13	49	125	13%	1973
Convention Proceedings	1	2	6	9	9	27	3%	1975
Journals	83	48	95	108	112	446	45%	1973
Other	6	4	4	17	12	43	4%	1975
Total Citations	154	95	234	250	264	997		1974

TABLE 4

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN THE JOURNAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION DURING 1979

	Pre '68	68-70	71-73	74-76	77-79	Total	Percent of all Citations	Median Citation
Books (not collections)	43	24	36	36	23	162	20%	1972
Books (edited collections)	13	10	15	52	37	127	15%	1975
Ph.D. Dissertations	1	2	1	3	1	8	1%	1973
Technical Reports	4	3	4	3	1	15	2%	1971
Convention Proceedings	2	0	0	5	3	10	1%	1975
Journals	91	56	91	131	126	495	60%	1974
Other	1	3	2	2	1	9	1%	1971
Total Citations	155	98	149	232	192	826		1974

TABLE 5

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MENTAL DEFICIENCY DURING 1979

	Pre '68	68-70	71-73	74-76	77-79	Total	Percent of all Citations	Median Citation
Books (not collections)	93	34	47	55	19	248	15%	1970
Books (edited collections)	36	28	35	74	42	215	13%	1974
Ph.D. Dissertations	5	3	3	8	4	23	1%	1974
Technical Reports	0	0	0	1	0	1	0%	1975
Convention Proceedings	5	2	1	2	1	11	1%	1968
Journals	282	163	221	341	188	1195	71%	1973
Other	0	0	0	0	1	1	0%	1978
Total	421	230	307	481	255	1694		1972

TABLE 6

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN THE JOURNAL OF LEARNING DISABILITIES DURING 1979

	Median Citation	Pre'68	68-70	71-73	74-76	77-79	Total
Journal of Learning Disabilities	1975	1	8	23	75	38	145
Exceptional Children	1972	11	9	19	20	4	63
Child Development	1971	12	8	7	11	4	42
Annals of Allergy	1970	9	3	2	3	6	23
Journal of Special Education	1973	1	0	10	7	4	22
Perceptual & Motor Skills	1969	8	3	3	4	2	20
Academic Therapy	1973	0	3	7	5	4	19
Cortex	1972	1	1	12	4	1	19
Psychology in the Schools	1975	0	0	4	12	2	18
Neuropsychologia	1974	2	4	1	8	2	17
Journal of Educational Psychology	1969	5	7	2	1	2	17

TABLE 7

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN THE LEARNING DISABILITIES QUARTERLY DURING 1979

	Median Citation	Pre'68	68-70	71-73	74-76	77-79	Total
Journal of Learning Disabilities	1975	0	2	11	41	21	75
Exceptional Children	1975	1	0	10	11	9	31
Learning Disabilities Quarterly	1978	0	0	0	0	17	17
Child Development	1974	3	2	2	6	4	17
American Psychologist	1975	5	0	1	8	3	17
Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	1974	0	2	5	6	2	15
Journal of Educational Psychology	1974	2	2	1	2	4	11
Psychological Bulletin	1970	2	3	2	1	1	9
Reading Research Quarterly	1973	0	1	5	3	0	9
Harvard Educational Review	1978	1	1	0	0	6	8
Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology	1977	0	0	0	3	5	8

TABLE 8

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DURING 1979

	Median Citation	Pre'68	68-70	71-73	74-76	77-79	Total
Exceptional Children	1975	6	9	11	20	23	69
Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	1975	0	4	8	11	11	34
American Journal of Mental Deficiency	1968	6	3	2	2	1	14
Education & Training of the Mentally Retarded	1976	0	1	1	3	5	10
Journal of Special Education	1975	0	3	1	2	4	10
Journal of Childhood Autism and Schizophrenia	1975	0	0	3	3	3	9
Mental Retardation	1973	0	2	3	2	2	9
Behavior Research and Therapy	1968	5	1	2	1	0	9
American Journal of Orthopsychiatry	1968	5	1	0	1	1	8
Journal of Learning Disabilities	1976	0	0	0	4	3	7
Psychology Today	1976	0	1	0	3	3	7

TABLE 9

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN THE JOURNAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION DURING 1979

	Median Citation	Pre'68	68-70	71-73	74-76	77-79	Total
Exceptional Children	1973	8	6	9	9	10	42
Journal of Learning Disabilities	1974	0	5	6	4	9	24
Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	1973	0	3	10	5	5	23
American Journal of Mental Deficiency	1975	4	1	2	9	6	22
Journal of Special Education	1974	1	4	3	8	3	19
Mental Retardation	1976	1	0	1	9	7	18
Child Development	1970	6	2	2	2	4	16
Defectology	1975	0	0	2	6	3	11
Neuropsychologia	1974	0	3	1	5	0	9
Science	1975	0	0	2	5	2	9
American Psychologist	1975	1	0	1	4	3	9

TABLE 10

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MENTAL DEFICIENCY DURING 1979

	Median Citation	Pre'68	68-70	71-73	74-76	77-79	Total
American Journal of Mental Deficiency	1974	52	25	31	73	60	241
Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	1975	0	11	12	25	18	66
Mental Retardation	1974	3	5	11	15	8	42
Exceptional Children	1971	7	7	7	9	2	32
Journal of Experimental Child Psychology	1974	8	3	1	10	5	27
Child Development	1974	6	0	7	9	5	27
Psychological Bulletin	1970	5	5	6	1	3	20
Journal of Experimental Psychology	1968	10	2	4	3	1	20
Journal of Mental Deficiency Research	1967	10	4	2	1	0	17
Journal of Educational Psychology	1972	3	3	4	5	1	16

TABLE 11

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN THE JOURNAL OF LEARNING DISABILITIES DURING 1980

	Pre '69	69-71	72-74	75-77	78-80	Total	Percent of all Citation	Median Citation
Books (not collections)	115	35	52	80	32	314	24%	1972
Books (edited collections)	18	13	21	38	12	102	8%	1974
Ph.D. Dissertations	8	8	8	9	2	35	3%	1972
Technical Reports	38	14	17	11	4	84	7%	1969
Convention Proceedings	5	2	2	14	10	33	3%	1976
Journals	155	108	151	229	64	707	55%	1973
Other	1	2	0	6	0	9	1%	1975
Total Citations	340	182	251	387	124	1284		1973

TABLE 12

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN THE LEARNING DISABILITIES QUARTERLY DURING 1980

	Pre '69	69-71	72-74	75-77	78-80	Total	Percent of all Citation	Median Citation
Books (not collections)	100	31	26	59	58	274	26%	1972
Books (edited collections)	18	12	14	16	20	80	8%	1974
Ph.D. Dissertations	7	8	8	5	1	29	3%	1971
Technical Reports	34	9	6	16	12	77	7%	1971
Convention Proceedings	4	5	0	6	3	18	2%	1975
Journals	127	67	128	123	100	545	52%	1973
Other	0	1	2	5	8	16	2%	1978
Total Citations	290	133	184	230	202	1039		1973

TABLE 13

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DURING 1980

	Pre'69	69-71	72-74	75-77	78-80	Total	Percent of all Citations	Median Citation
Books (not collectives)	52	23	39	47	57	218	25%	1974
Books (edited collections)	7	3	19	25	15	69	8%	1975
Ph.D. Dissertations	4	6	3	11	5	29	3%	1975
Technical Reports	18	5	11	18	22	74	8%	1975
Convention Proceedings	7	1	4	6	14	32	4%	1977
Journals	104	42	48	118	140	452	51%	1975
Other	1	0	4	1	7	13	1%	1973
Total Citations	193	80	128	226	260	887		1975

TABLE 14

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN THE JOURNAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION DURING 1980

	Pre'69	69-71	72-74	75-77	78-80	Total	Percent of all Citations	Median Citation
Books (not collections)	85	28	38	52	18	221	21%	1971
Books (edited collections)	35	16	15	28	17	111	10%	1972
Ph.D. Dissertations	3	4	4	6	6	29	3%	1972
Technical Reports	39	6	15	29	6	95	9%	1972
Convention Proceedings	5	2	3	4	6	20	2%	1975
Journals	132	98	153	149	57	589	55%	1973
Other	0	0	0	0	3	0	0%	1979
Total Citations	305	154	228	268	110	1065		1972

TABLE 15

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MENTAL DEFICIENCY DURING 1980

	Pre'69	69-71	72-74	75-77	78-80	Total	Percent of all citations	Median Citation
Books (not collections)	48	33	30	62	35	208	13%	1974
Books (edited collections)	40	23	36	61	50	210	13%	1975
Ph.D. Dissertations	2	0	3	5	10	20	1%	1978
Technical Reports	25	14	46	51	21	157	10%	1974
Convention Proceedings	5	1	4	15	14	39	2%	1976
Journals	223	120	157	250	175	925	59%	1974
Other	1	1	1	1	7	12	1%	1978
Total Citations	344	192	277	445	312	1571		1974

TABLE 16

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN THE JOURNAL OF LEARNING DISABILITIES DURING 1980

	Median Citation	Pre'69	69-71	72-74	75-77	78-80	Totals
Journal of Learning Disabilities	1975	0	20	40	52	10	122
Child Development	1968	18	6	3	7	0	34
Journal of Special Education	1975	0	5	6	12	3	26
Perceptual and Motor Skills	1972	6	3	6	4	0	19
Exceptional Children	1973	3	1	8	5	0	17
Academic Therapy	1974	0	5	4	5	2	16
Journal of Educational Psychology	1971	5	4	3	4	0	16
Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry	1975	0	6	0	5	1	12
American Journal of Mental Deficiency	1971	4	2	3	2	0	11
American Journal of Orthopsychiatry	1969	4	2	0	3	1	10
Journal of Exceptional Child Psychology	1974	1	0	5	4	0	10

TABLE 17

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN THE
LEARNING DISABILITIES QUARTERLY DURING 1980

	Median Citation	Pre-69	69-71	72-74	75-77	78-80	Totals
Journal of Learning Disabilities	1975	7	10	32	33	31	113
Exceptional Children	1973	9	4	10	6	8	37
Learning Disabilities Quarterly	1979	--	--	--	--	28	28
Journal of Special Education	1974	3	3	8	6	7	27
Child Development	1972	5	3	6	6	1	21
Journal of Educational Psychology	1975	4	2	1	6	2	15
Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	1973	--	2	8	3	--	13
Reading Teacher	1970	5	3	2	3	--	13
Harvard Educational Review	1971	1	1	0	8	1	11
Reading Research Quarterly	1975	1	3	1	4	1	10

TABLE 18

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN
EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DURING 1980

	Median Citation	Pre'69	69-71	72-74	75-77	78-80	Total
Exceptional Children	1973	23	11	16	14	24	88
American Journal of Mental Deficiency	1974	3	1	4	5	3	16
Journal of Educational Psychology	1969	9	0	1	3	3	16
Journal of Learning Disabilities	1977	0	1	2	5	5	13
Child Development	1975	5	0	1	7	0	13
Journal of School Psychology	1974	3	0	3	4	2	12
Psychology in the Schools	1973	2	1	4	3	1	11
Phi Delta Kappan							
Developmental Psychology	1973	0	2	4	3	0	9
Journal of Personality and Social Psychology	1974	1	1	2	2	2	8
Journal of Special Education	1971	0	4	1	3	0	8
Child Care Quarterly	1977	0	0	0	4	4	8

TABLE 19

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN THE JOURNAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION DURING 1980

	Median Citation	Pre'69	69-71	72-74	75-77	78-80	Total
Exceptional Children	1972	14	9	25	7	4	59
Journal of Learning Disabilities	1974	1	10	15	14	8	48
American Journal of Mental Deficiency	1973	9	2	9	11	1	32
Journal of Special Education	1973	1	9	8	9	4	31
Journal of School Psychology	1973	6	2	8	7	1	24
American Psychologist	1975	4	0	3	9	3	19
Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	1975	0	2	4	10	2	18
Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology	1975	2	1	5	7	3	18
American Journal of Community Psychology	1975	0	0	7	10	4	21
Psychology in the Schools	1975	0	4	2	5	3	14

TABLE 20

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MENTAL DEFICIENCY DURING 1980

	Median Citation	Pre'68	69-71	72-74	75-77	78-80	Total
American Journal of Mental Deficiency	1974	70	26	48	78	65	287
Mental Retardation	1975	5	7	13	15	17	57
Child Development	1976	5	2	5	21	5	38
Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	1974	2	6	12	12	4	36
Exceptional Children	1975	4	3	4	6	7	24
Journal of Experimental Psychology	1968	10	3	5	1	0	19
Education & Training of the Mentally Retarded	1977	0	1	0	11	7	19
Journal of Exceptional Child Psychology	1975	4	0	3	9	1	17
Developmental Psychology	1975	0	0	5	7	2	14
Perceptual and Motor Skills	1973	2	1	4	2	2	11
All Others	1972	121	71	58	88	65	403
Total	1974	223	120	157	250	175	925

TABLE 21

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN THE JOURNAL OF LEARNING DISABILITIES DURING 1979 AND 1980

	Age in years					Total	Percent of all Citation	Median Age
	12+	9-11	6-8	3-5	0-2			
Books (not collections	269	120	137	188	69	783	26%	8 yrs.
Books (edited collections)	52	50	76	96	45	319	11%	6 yrs.
Ph.D. Dissertations	13	17	15	19	5	69	2%	8 yrs.
Technical Reports	39	15	20	19	6	99	3%	9 yrs.
Convention Proceedings	13	6	11	27	26	83	3%	4 yrs.
Journals	329	221	347	521	211	1629	54%	6 yrs.
Other	1	2	0	6	0	9	0%	5 yrs.
Total Citations	716	431	606	876	362	2991		7 yrs.

TABLE 22

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN LEARNING DISABILITIES QUARTERLY DURING 1979 AND 1980

	Age in years					Total	Percent of all Citation	Median Age
	12+	9-11	6-8	3-5	0-2			
Books (not collections)	140	61	58	97	100	456	26%	7 yrs.
Books (edited collections)	24	19	26	33	50	152	9%	5 yrs.
Ph.D. Dissertations	9	8	10	7	4	38	2%	8 yrs.
Technical Reports	38	13	10	31	28	120	7%	6 yrs.
Convention Proceedings	6	5	1	12	10	34	2%	4 yrs.
Journals	185	108	195	247	219	954	54%	6 yrs.
Other	1	1	3	6	18	29	2%	1 yr.
Total Citations	403	215	303	433	429	1783		6 yrs.

TABLE 23

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DURING 1979 AND 1980

	Age in years					Total	Percent of all Citation	Median Age
	12+	9-11	6-8	3-5	0-2			
Books (not collections)	97	48	78	88	87	398	21%	6 yrs.
Books (edited collections)	22	12	49	79	65	227	12%	6 yrs.
Ph.D. Dissertations	7	8	6	19	7	47	2%	5 yrs.
Technical Reports	19	10	68	31	71	199	11%	5 yrs.
Convention Proceedings	8	3	10	15	23	59	3%	4 yrs.
Journals	187	90	143	226	252	898	48%	5 yrs.
Other	7	4	8	18	19	56	3%	4 yrs.
Total Citations	347	175	362	476	524	1884		5 yrs.

TABLE 24

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN THE JOURNAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION
DURING 1979 AND 1980

	Age in years					Total	Percent of all Citation	Median Age
	12+	9-11	6-8	3-5	0-2			
Books (not collections)	128	52	74	88	41	383	20%	8 yrs.
Books (edited collections)	48	26	30	80	54	238	13%	5 yrs.
Ph.D. Dissertations	10	6	5	9	7	37	2%	7 yrs.
Technical Reports	43	9	19	32	7	110	6%	8 yrs.
Convention Proceedings	7	2	3	9	9	30	2%	4 yrs.
Journals	223	154	244	280	183	1084	57%	6 yrs.
Other	1	3	2	2	4	12	1%	5 yrs.
Total Citations	460	252	377	500	305	1894		7 yrs.

TABLE 25

SOURCES OF CITATIONS IN THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MENTAL DEFICIENCY DURING 1979 AND 1980

	Age in years					Total	Percent of all Citation	Median Age
	12+	9-11	6-8	3-5	0-2			
Books (not collections)	141	67	77	117	54	456	14%	8 yrs.
Books (edited collections)	76	51	71	135	92	425	13%	5 yrs.
Ph.D. Dissertations	7	3	6	13	14	43	1%	4 yrs.
Technical Reports	25	14	46	52	21	158	5%	6 yrs.
Convention Proceedings	10	3	5	17	15	50	2%	4 yrs.
Journals	505	283	378	591	363	2120	65%	6 yrs.
Other	1	1	1	1	8	13	0%	2 yrs.
Total Citations	765	422	584	926	567	3265		6 yrs.

TABLE 26

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN THE
JOURNAL OF LEARNING DISABILITIES DURING 1979 AND 1980

	Median Age	Age in years					Total
		12+	9-11	6-8	3-5	0-2	
Journal of Learning Disabilities	5 yrs.	1	28	63	127	48	267
Exceptional Children	7 yrs.	14	10	27	25	4	80
Child Development	10 yrs.	30	14	10	18	4	76
Journal of Special Education	5 yrs.	1	5	16	19	7	48
Perceptual and Motor Skills	9 yrs.	14	6	9	8	2	39
Academic Therapy	6 yrs.	0	8	11	10	6	35
Journal of Educational Psychology	10 yrs.	10	11	5	5	2	33
Annals of Allergy	8 yrs.	9	3	2	4	6	24
Psychology in the Schools	5 yrs.		1	6	14	3	24
American Journal of Orthopaychiatry	11 yrs.	11	4	2	4	2	23

TABLE 27

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN THE LEARNING DISABILITIES QUARTERLY DURING 1979 AND 1980

	Median Age	Age in years					Total
		12+	9-11	6-8	3-5	0-2	
Journal of Learning Disabilities	4 yrs.	7	12	43	74	52	188
Exceptional Children	5 yrs.	10	4	20	17	17	68
Learning Disabilities Quarterly	1 yr.	0	0	0	0	45	45
Child Development	6 yrs.	8	5	8	12	5	38
Journal of Special Education	5 yrs.	3	3	9	7	12	34
Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	6 yrs.	0	4	13	9	2	28
Journal of Educational Psychology	5 yrs.	6	4	2	8	6	26
Reading Research Quarterly	6 yrs.	1	4	6	7	1	19
Harvard Educational Review	4 yrs.	2	2	0	8	7	19
American Psychologist	5 yrs.	6	0	1	8	3	18

TABLE 28

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DURING 1979 AND 1980

	Median Age	Age in years (2+	9-11	6-8	3-5	0-2)	Total
Exceptional Children	5 yrs.	29	20	27	34	47	157
Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	4 yrs.	0	4	9	12	12	37
American Journal of Mental Deficiency	7 yrs.	9	4	6	7	4	30
Journal of Learning Disabilities	3 yrs.	0	1	2	9	8	20
Journal of Special Education	5 yrs.	0	7	2	5	4	18
Journal of Educational Psychology	12 yrs.	10	0	2	3	3	18
Journal of School Psychology	5 yrs.	3	0	6	7	2	18
Child Development	7 yrs.	7	1	1	8	0	17
Mental Retardation	5 yrs.	2	2	3	4	4	15
American Journal of Orthopsychiatry	12 yrs.	7	1	0	2	3	13
Psychology in the Schools	7 yrs.	2	1	5	3	2	13

TABLE 29

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN THE JOURNAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION DURING 1979 AND 1980

	Median Age	Age in years					Total
		12+	9-11	6-8	3-5	0-2	
Exceptional Children	7 yrs.	22	15	34	16	14	101
Journal of Learning Disabilities	8 yrs.	1	15	21	18	17	72
American Journal of Mental Deficiency	8 yrs.	13	3	11	20	7	54
Journal of Special Education	8 yrs.	2	13	11	17	7	50
Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	5 yrs.	0	5	14	15	7	41
Mental Retardation	4 yrs.	4	0	1	14	10	29
American Psychologist	4 yrs.	5	0	4	13	6	28
Child Development	8 yrs.	10	2	3	4	6	25
Journal of School Psychology	7 yrs.	6	2	8	7	1	24
American Journal of Community Psychology	4 yrs.	0	0	7	10	4	21
Psychology in the Schools	4 yrs.	0	4	4	5	8	21

TABLE 30

THE TEN MOST FREQUENTLY CITED JOURNALS IN THE
AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MENTAL DEFICIENCY DURING 1979 AND 1980

	Median Age	Age in years					Total
		12+	9-11	6-8	3-5	0-2	
American Journal of Mental Deficiency	5 yrs.	122	51	79	151	125	528
Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	5 yrs.	2	17	24	37	22	102
Mental Retardation	5 yrs.	8	12	24	30	25	99
Child Development	5 yrs.	11	2	12	30	10	65
Exceptional Children	7 yrs.	11	10	11	15	9	56
Journal of Experimental Child Psychology	5 yrs.	12	3	4	19	6	44
Journal of Experimental Psychology	12 yrs.	20	5	9	4	1	39
Psychological Bulletin	10 yrs.	10	9	6	1	3	29
Developmental Psychology	5 yrs.	0	2	9	13	3	27
Education & Training of the Mentally Retarded	4 yrs.	0	2	1	14	8	25

TABLE 31

NUMBER OF JOURNALS FROM THE COMBINED 1979-1980 TOP TEN LISTS IN THIS SURVEY WHICH ALSO APPEARED ON OTHER RELEVANT LISTS

	JLD	LDQ	EX.CH.	J.SP.ED	AJMD
Luce & Johnson's (1978) 12 lists of top journals in education and psychology	3	5	3	3	4
Koulack & Keselman's (1975) list of 40 most highly regarded journals in psychology	2	4	3	3	6
Vockell & Asher's (1972) list of 15 most frequently cited journals in educational research	2	3	1	1	2
Vockell & Bennett's (1973) list of 15 most frequently cited journals in child psychology	3	2	3	1	4
Black's (1973) list of most frequently cited journals in learning disabilities	9	6	9	7	3

Table 32 The 24 Journals which made at least one of the five Top-Ten lists. (See note at end of Table)

	JLD	LDQ	EX.CH.	J.SP.ED	AJMD
Academic Therapy	*35 (.02)	11 (.01)	4 (.00)	12 (.01)	0 (.00)
American Journal of Community Psychology	0 (.00)	0 (.00)	0 (.00)	*21 (.02)	0 (.00)
American Journal of Mental Deficiency	17 (.01)	14 (.01)	*30 (.03)	*54 (.05)	*528 (.22)
American Journal of Ortho-Psychiatry	*23 *.01)	12 (.01)	*13 (.01)	12 (.01)	8 (.00)
American Psychologist	11 (.01)	*18 (.02)	8 (.01)	*28 (.03)	7 (.00)
Annals of Allergy	*24 (.01)	0 (.00)	0 (.00)	0 (.00)	0 (.00)
Child Development	*76 (.05)	*38 (.04)	*17 (.02)	*25 (.02)	*65 (.03)
Developmental Psychology	17 (.01)	6 (.01)	1 (.00)	12 (.01)	*27 (.01)
Education & Training of the Mentally Retarded	2 (.00)	1 (.00)	16 (.02)	8 (.01)	*25 (.01)
Exceptional Children	*80 (.05)	*68 (.08)	*157 (.18)	*101 (.09)	*56 (.02)
Harvard Educational Review	10 (.01)	*19 (.02)	5 (.01)	6 (.01)	3 (.00)
Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	19 (.01)	*28 (.03)	*37 (.04)	*41 (.04)	*102 (.04)
Journal of Educational Psychology	*33 (.02)	*26 (.03)	*18 (.02)	14 (.01)	24 (.01)

Table 32 Continued

	JLD	LDQ	EX. CH.	J.SP.ED	AJMD
Journal of Experimental Child Psychology	19 (.01)	9 (.01)	3 (.00)	4 (.00)	*44 (.02)
Journal of Experimental Psychology	5 (.00)	2 (.00)	0 (.00)	1 (.00)	*39 (.02)
Journal of Learning Disabilities	*267 (.16)	*188 (.20)	*20 (.02)	*72 (.07)	16 (.01)
Journal of School Psychology	12 (.01)	4 (.00)	*18 (.02)	*24 (.02)	1 (.00)
Journal of Special Education	*48 (.03)	*34 (.04)	*18 (.02)	*50 (.05)	15 (.01)
Learning Disabilities Quarterly	1 (.00)	*45 (.05)	2 (.00)	3 (.00)	0 (.00)
Mental Retardation	5 (.00)	2 (.00)	*15 (.02)	*29 (.03)	*99 (.04)
Perceptual & Motor Skills	*39 (.02)	16 (.02)	4 (.00)	18 (.02)	19 (.01)
Psychological Bulletin	13 (.01)	10 (.01)	6 (.01)	13 (.01)	*29 (.01)
Psychology in the Schools	*24 (.01)	13 (.01)	*13 (.01)	*24 (.02)	8 (.00)
Reading Research Quarterly	15 (.01)	*19 (.02)	0 (.00)	3 (.00)	1 (.00)

Table 32 continued

Notes on Interpreting This Table:

The asterisk (*) indicates that a journal appeared in the Top Ten list for the designated citing journal.

The number outside parentheses gives the overall number of times each journal at the top of the column cited each journal at the left.

The number in parentheses indicates the proportion of the citations from each citing journal which referred to a given source. This number enables the reader to compose the relative influence of each journal on the citing journal.

TABLE 33

PROPORTION OF CITATIONS FROM EACH JOURNAL TO THAT JOURNAL ITSELF AND TO THE OTHER JOURNALS EXAMINED IN THIS STUDY (SELF CITATIONS ARE UNDERLINED ON DIAGONAL)

CITING JOURNAL	JOURNAL CITED					Total Citations to the other 4 Journals
	JLD	LDQ	EX.CH.	J.SP.ED.	AJMD	
Journal of Learning Disabilities (JLD)	.16	.00	.05	.03	.01	.09
Learning Disabilities Quarterly ((LDQ)	.20	.05	.08	.04	.01	.33
Exceptional Children (EX Ch)	.02	.00	.18	.02	.03	.07
Journal of Special Education (J.Sp.Ed.)	.07	.00	.09	.05	.05	.21
American Journal of Mental Deficiency (AJMD)	.01	.00	.02	.01	.20	.04

TABLE 34

NUMBER OF JOURNALS IN COMMON ON THE TOP TEN LISTS

	JLD	LDQ	EX.CH.	J.SP.ED	AJMD
Journal of Learning Disabilities	---				
Learning Disabilities Quarterly	5	---			
Exceptional Children	7	6	---		
Journal of Special Education	5	6	9	---	
American Journal of Mental Deficiency	2	3	5	5	---

Table 35 The stability of the citation patterns of the five journals.

Journals	Percentage of Top Ten Journals in 1979 which were also Top Ten Journals in 1980	Coefficient of Stability
JID	73%	.92
IDQ	73%	.94
Ex. Ch.	36%	.82
J.Sp.Ed.	55%	.71
AJMD	70%	.98